The Press

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1862.

EXTRACT FROM THE LAST SPEECH OF STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS.—"The conspiracy to break up the Union is a fact now known to all. Armies are being raised, and war levied to accomplish it. There can be but two sides to the controversy. Every man must be on the United States or against it. There can be no neutrals in this war. There can be none but patriots and traitors."

THE LATEST WAR NEWS. During the past week, important military move-

ments have taken place on the upper Potomac. On Monday, Gen. Banks' division commenced to cross the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, Col. Geary's Pennsylvania regiment being in advance. On Wednesday our troops occupied Harper's Ferry, and immediately took possession of Bolivar and Loudoun Heights, so that our position could not be flanked. Our forces did not meet any opposition, but, on the contrary, large numbers of refugees returned to their homes, and manifested great joy on the appearance of our troops. It is said that the cendition of the country is deplorable, in consequence of the vandalism and marauding depredations of the rebels. The plans of our generals are not known, but all may rest assured that the positions we have g fined will be maintained at all hazards. [The despatch on our first page giving the particulars of the movement was approved on Friday evening last, and placed in the Sandy Hook (Md.) telegraph office for transmission to The Press, in which it should have appeared on Saturday. That it did not, was attributable to the blunder or forgetfulness of an operator, who failed to forward it.]

The report that Columbus, Ky., had been evacuated by the rebels is fully confirmed by the official despatches forwarded to Washington. Commander Phelps, who was sent with a flag of truce to the town, returned to Cairo vestorday, with the report that the hegira had commenced, and that the rebels had fired their quarters, which, with a quantity of army stores, were destroyed. Large fires were also seen in the town, indicating that the torch had been applied to it. The belief prevails in Cairo that our forces have occupied the post. Commodore Foote is doing enough effective work on the Western waters to win an imperishable fame, and the thanks of the nation will reward him. Our gunboats have made another reconnoissance up the Tennessee river. The Tuylor, under the command of Lieutenant Gwin, proceeded up the river as far as Eastport, Mississippi. The commanding efficer, in his official report, states that he found the Union sentiment very strong, and that the late glorious successes of our army have been most beneficial to the Union cause throughout the country he visited. He warned the inhabitants of the different towns along the banks of the river that he would hold Secessionists and their preperty responsible for any outrages committed on the Union people.

Official despatches from the Burnside Expedition have been received in Washington. Our forces sent up the Chowan river had returned. They did not go beyond Winton. The rebels fled when they saw our troops approaching the latter place.

Hon. F. W. Seward, Assistant Secretary of State, has informed Superintendent of Police Kennedy, of New York, that the passport system is now abolished, and that it will therefore be left optional with persons to provide themselves with passports or not, as they may deem necessary for their security and protection abroad. Foreign passports will no longer require to be countersigned.

We have an "important, if true," despatch from Washington, stating that the object of the Allied invasion of Mexico, is understood to be the erection respect for the "free choice of the Mexican people!" This invasion of their country, and dictathem " free choice" with a vengeance !

We have foreign news to the 16th ulthroy the arrival of the Arabia at Halifax. It is important, apprehended the disruption of the Palmerston Cabinet upon Mexican affairs. The belief had been expressed that England would withdraw from the Mexican filibustering expedition, should France and Spain attempt to interfere in the internal policy of Mexico. The Independence Belge had asserted the positive acceptance of the throne by Maximilian.

The official documents relative to the blockade were being prepared by the British Government to lay before Parliament. A supplementary naval estimate had asked for an extra appropriation of £364,000, probably to defray the expense of the Mason and Slidell bluster.

It is reported that the Tuscarora had arrived at Gibraltar, where the Sampter still remained without coal.

In response to an inquiry of Lord Stanhope, Earl Russell bad stated that he had no official information respecting the "stone blockade." The Government had protested against the permanent destruction of Charleston, or any other harbor, as unjustifiable, and its protest had met the approval of the French Chambers.

WE HAVE read with much interest the report of the "Select Committee on the Defence of the Great Lakes and Rivers," of which Hon. ISAAC N. ARNOLD, of Illinois, is chairman. To this committee were referred those parts of President Lincoln's recent message, recommending defences and fortifications on the great lakes and rivers, the specific recommendation of the President being, as will be remembered, a belief "that some fortifications and depots of arms and munitions, with harbor and navigation improvements at wellselected points upon our great rivers and lakes, would be of great importance to our national defence and preservation." The report of the select committee is luminous and elaborate. Many interesting and startling facts are developed, and we have the claims of the great Northwest presented to the country as they have never been presented before. Mr. Representative Annold is overwhelmed with his theme, and he takes an enthusiastic delight in displaying the resources and advantages of his rich and fertile region. As we look upon the pyramid of figures representing his arguments, and see calculation after calculation showing the population, the wealth, the tonnage, the commerce, the manufactures, the real estate and personal property, and the political power of the Northwestern Sta'es, we feel humbled. And when we remember that these things have come to pass, almost in the span of a single generation, that the first white man born in the State of Illinois is hardly old enough to be a grandfather, we stand aghast at the power and strength still to come, and see the glory of the Empire and Keystone States pass away to the shores of the great lakes and the Upper Mississippi. The Western States have | expected that an incident affording a close been neglec ed children of the Union. They parallel to it would ever occur in our own nawere turned out into the prairies and forests to hew timber and dig the soil, to navigate happens at a time when the idea symbolized broad streams in rude boats and fight the In- | by the cant phrase of "seeing the ciphant" is dians, and they attain the years of manhood strong, burly, uncouth, honest, and affectionate sons. During the generation in which their petted Southern brethren conspired to warrant us in using them as did the destroy the Union, they have added to thal Union an empire greater than the Republic to add to the terrors of the battle-field; and, itself fifty years ago. And now, when our as the President justly observes, "steam on good old mother is menaced by fratricidal land, as well as on water, has been our best to vindicate her honor and punish her unna- internal commerce," although in the East, at

this great empire. There are immense inland difficult places, and otherwise, in connection seas, covering eighty thousand square miles of | with army movements, by exercising their sahas come together. Look at the State of Illinois. In 1812, the brave, barbarous, eloquent, and ill-fated Tecumsen rounced its uninhabited prairies, meditating war upon the white man. were not 60,000 people within its limits, now its population is rated at 1,711,753. We may that have accidentally escaped from menageappreciate this fact more when we remen- ries, or by the fierce exhibitions of anger sylvania contained 1,549,458, and in 1860 indulge, would clearly condemn it. The peoprints with pride, tells us that if the North- posed Siamese gifts.

western States were peopled as densely as the State of Massachusetts, there would be over mile was as large as it is in England the population would be nearly 280,000,000. These intelligent, and religiously loyal. The land is as fertile as the land of Canaan with its overflowing milk and honey. It is rich in the products of the soil, and rich in mineral treasures. Nature has given the husbandman and merchant broad seas and navigable rivers, while the enterprise of man has covered it with railroads, telegraphs, and canals.

The interests of an empire as vast as the empire of the West demand the earnest attention of Congress. We must foster these States if we would reap all the benefits their wealth and glory will bring to the Union hereafter. It requires no argument of Mr. ARNOLD's select committee to make this duty plain, for, indeed, the facts they give us render argument unnecessary. They urge upon Congress four distinct measures: The establishment of shore defences at some commanding positions; the establishment of a national foundry on the upper lakes, and naval depots on Lakes Ontario. Erie, and Michigan; the improvement of harbors on the lakes, and the enlargement of the Illinois and Michigan canal. These shore defences comprise a fort at the entrance to Lake Superior, commanding the Sault St. Marie canal; a military road on Lake Superior, from Green Bay to Marguette; the fortification of the Straits of Mackinaw. at the entrance to Lake Michigan: the erection of a naval depot on Lake Ontario; and the fortification of Toledo Bay, Maumee Bay, and Put-in Bay, in Lake Eric. We

heartily recommend this plan, and particularly in relation to the Straits of Mackinaw and the Sault St. Marie Canal. The establishment of a naval depot on Lake Ontario does not seem to be so necessary. With the Falls of Niagara and the absence of any necessity for such a depot on Lake Ontario, this recommendation may be safely postponed until more urgent public reasons require it. The Mackinaw Straits should be immediately fortified. In commanding Lake Michigan, they command the richest part of the Western territory, and, the speedy conquest of that territory inevita-

Without entering as fully into details as Mr. Annold, we pass over a number of his recommendations. There is one of great importance, however, and that is the enlargement of the Illinois and Michigan canal for military purposes. The proposed canal would extend from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi river, and would thus bring together the two great systems of water communications of our country. "This communication, so vast," says. Mr. Arnoud, "can be effected at small expense, and with no long delay. It is but carrying out the plan of Nature. A great river rivalling the St. Lawrence in volume at no distant day was discharged from Lake Michigan, by the Illinois, into the Mississippi. Its banks, its currents, its islands, and deposits can still be easily traced, and it only needs a deepening of the present channel for a few miles to reopen a magnificent river from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi." The necessity of such a communication would be felt in the event of a war with England. It would enable us to bring from the Atlantic the means of defending the lakes and rivers of the West. and would bind the Gulf of Mexico with the St. Lawrence in an uninterrupted line of comnunication.

which recommends Eastern members to vote of that unfortunate territory into a monarchy. for lake defences, because the lakes "have This, of course, is in direct contravention of the been the scenes of the most brilliant naval assurance given to our Government, and the only triumphs which adorn our history," and stops plea that will be advanced to justify it, is that of to tell us that one-half of the soldiers in the field are from the Northwest. There are many excellent suggestions in the report; it exhibits great labor, and is written with skill and care. Mr. Arnold and his associates on the committee have done their work well, and it only remains for the House to take the propositions submitted to it, and give to the Northwestern States that encouragement and protection they

The Elephants of Siam. The King of Siam, as a brief telegraphic despatch announced a few days ago, was recently prompted, by his warm desire to cultivate amicable relations with the people of the United States, to offer us what he supposed would prove a present of great value. It was no less than a gift of a number of young male and female elephants. He had heard of the eager curiosity of our people to see the largest of the living quadrupeds, and had learned that our Government had imported camels from Arabia for transportation in Texas and on the overland route to California, and he, not unnaturally, supposed that his proposition would be gratefully accepted. He, therefore, expressed, over his own signature, which is "Somberon Phoa Paramendr

MAHA MONGKUT," his views, as follows: "It has occurred to us that if, on the continent of America, there should be several pairs of young male and female elephants turned loose in forests where there was abundance of water and grass, in any region under the sun's declination, both north and south, called, by the English, the torrid zone, and all were forbidden to molest them, to attempt to raise them would be well, and if the climate there should prove favorable to elephants, we are of opinion that, after a while, they will increase of opinion that, after a white, they will increase until there be large herds, as there are here on the continent of Asia, until the inhabitants of America will be able to catch and tame and use them as beasts of burthen, making them of benefit to the country, since clephants, being animals of great size and strength, can bear burdens and travel through uncleared woods and matted jungles where are carrived and cartroads have yet been made?" no carriage and cart-roads have yet been made." The excellent King also makes these suggestions concerning the care of the elephants:

"We, on our part, will procure young male and female elephants, and forward them, one or two pairs at a time.

"When the elephants are on board the ship, let a steamer take it in tow, that it may reach America as rapidly as possible, before they become wasted and diseased by the voyage.

"When they arrive in America do not let them be taken to a cold climate out of the regions under be taken to a cold climate out of the regions under

the sun's declinations or torrid zone, but let them, with all haste, be turned out to run wild in some jungle suitable for them, not confining them any length of time.

"If these things can be done, we trust that the clophants will propagate their species hereafter in the continent of America."

Mr. Lincoln, however, very respectfully declined to accept the proffered gifts, on the ground that they could "not be made practically useful in the present condition of the United States;" but he assured his Majesty of Siam that he would, at no distant day, transmit to him some token or indication of the

high sense which this Government entertains of his friendship. Familiar as the story has become of the man who was placed in a perplexing quandary by the gift of a white elephant which he could not keep without pecuniary ruin, could not give away, and dared not kill for fear of mortally offending an illustrious donor, few could have tional experience. But, singularly enough, it more fully realized by the American people than at any former period of our history. The system of modern warfare would not ancient Romans, Grecians, and Persians. hands, they are enduring privation and death and most efficient agent of transportation in the present day, elephants are employed for There is something imposing in the power of transporting baggage, dragging artillery over

nded by five thousand miles gacity and strength in lifting, dragging, and of coast. On these coasts a vast population pushing with their leather-protected foreheads. The project of turning the elephants loose would scarcely meet with much favor in any inhabited portion of our country. The ex-In 1818, when it came into the Union, there perience of the neighborhoods which have occasionally been alarmed by the wild animals ber that in 1818 our own State of Penn- in which the best-trained elephants sometimes it was reported as numbering 2,906,- ple of the section of Illinois in which DAN 370. In twenty years Chicago rises from Rice's famous rhinoceros indulged his wild a town containing 4,476 inhabitants to a me- freaks, last summer, would resolutely oppose tropolis numbering 109,263. Nor do we see it. The consternation of the contrabands of the any signs of surfeit or languor. This terri- South, should they unexpectedly find any such tory is far from being developed, even to the gigantic intruders stalking through their cotton point attained in the East. The wealth of Illi- fields or forests, may more easily be imagined nois, which was \$156,265,006 in 1850, is esti- than described; and even the boasted courage mated at \$871,860,282 in 1860, and some curi- of the chivalry might be somewhat daunted ous statistician whose figures Mr. Arnold by an infuriated attack from one of the pro-

The most resolute opponents of the general policy of Mr. Lincoln will, therefore, doubt-133,000,000, and if the average to a square less be ready to approve his reply to the illustrious Mongkut. That his offer was prompted by a peculiarly friendly disposition, that Western States possess every element of should be highly appreciated, is proved by a strength and power. The people are brave, | feature of the Siamese Court which deserves mention. One of the peculiarities of their Government consists in having a Second or Vice King, who bears a relation to the First or Senior King, slightly analogous to that of the Vice President of our country to the President. This "Second King" has a band of foreign musicians, which is led by his son, who is called George Washington, and under his direction the Siamese capital is often made to resound with the martial strains of Yankee Doodle, Hail Columbia, and the Star-Spangled Banner. Our Asiatic friends have thus incidentally shown their appreciation of the objects for which we cherish a feeling little short of adoration—the memory of the Father

of our Country and our favorite national airsand thus established one link of sympathy with us. Though in the hour of our national peril their tribute of good will was tendered to us in an unavailable shape, we should not regard it solely in the humorous aspect in which it is apt to present itself. Some day or other, when it may be deemed advisable to take by the horns the Bull that was over-eager to gore us, the tusks of the elephants of Siam may prove not altogether useless, and we rather relish the idea that they are even now being trained to march to the tune of Yankee WASHINGTON, March 2, 1862.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL"

Doodle.

Before John C. Breckinridge left the Senate his daily task was to arraign Congress and the Administration on the grave charge of having repeatedly and deliberately violated the Constitution of the United States. He was the especial champion of the Constitution. impeding all communication between the lakes, He desired to preserve it intact. He had taken an oath before high Heaven to support and defend it: and whatever Senators might say, he would dare to tell them, from his place in the Senate, that every act of the majority, almost without exception, since the commencement of the war, had tended to bring the Constitution and the Government into contempt. in the possession of an enemy, would render | These arguments, daily pronounced and published, were read by his followers all over the Union, and did much to invigorate those in arms against it, and to poison those who, although not in arms, had no heart in the great struggle for its preservation. During these professions of love and reverence for the Constitution, no word fell from the lips of Breckinridge against the men who were seeking to mutilate and to murder it. I shall never forget the gloomy morning after the battle of Bull Run, when every loyal heart beat with the expectation of the advancing hosts of treason, and when the now secret enemies of the Republic waited eagerly to welcome them, how defiantly and bitterly this Presidential candidate of the Secession Democracy treated and taunted the true friends of the Constitution and the war. Had Beaure gard ascended the steps of the Capitol with his myrmidons, their swords dripping with the best blood of the free States, his first act would have been to honor Breckinridge, and to direct the execution of those who stood by the Administration of Abraham Lincoln. Such men as Andrew Johnson and John S. Carlile would have been sentenced to death on the spot by a drum-head court-martial, for daring to stand by the Constitution of the United States, and for refusing to obey the mandates of those who had sworn to annihilate it. We We feel disposed to criticise some of Mr. | should have had no trial by jury then. The Fede-ARNOLD's propositions; but, in view of the ral Constitution, overthrown by its boasted exgreat good he proposes, criticism would be pounders, would have been succeeded by the The inexpiable crime would have been fidelity to the Union; and the accuser, judge, and executioner of all men guilty of this crime would have been found in the person of a single military despot, flushed with victory over the army of the Republic. As it was not per-

> the utterances of an incorruptible patriot and decision. sage. Even when the lamented Baker, of Oregon, in a burst of inspired eloquence, which electrified all who heard it, called this incarnate traitor to a sense of his shame, and denounced him as the unblushing advocate of rebellion, his appeal fell dead and cold upon the partisans of Breckinridge, and those Democratic papers, then so loud in his praise, and now carrying out his counsel of exclusive devotion to the Constitution, refused to lay before their readers the glorious rebuke of the man who, after denouncing the recreant Senator, went into the field of battle and gave up his so important a position, and the panic already life for his country. John C. Breckinridge, with all this adoration for the Constitution on his lips, volunteered in another service, and, when the doors of the Capitol closed against him, he passed over to the enemies of the Constitution and drew his perjured sword

I have deemed this reference necessary at

this juncture, when the same arguments, so

flippantly and frequently used by Breckinridge,

mitted to Mr. Breckinridge to be present at

this carnival of blood, he retained his seat in

the Senate until the close of the called session,

exalting himself as an apostle of peace and

preaching profound affection for the Federal

Constitution. These sentiments were caught

are being employed by the men who followed his flag a little more than a year ago. Like him, they make the Constitution their fortress and their palladium; like him, they bewail the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus; like him, they denounce the arrest and imprisonment of Secession sympathizers and spies; like him, they charge that the war was precipitated by the Abolitionists; and, of course, in the same vein, and doubtless to save him from punishment, they insist upon a trial by jury of all the men whose hands are red with the blood of patriotic hearts, and who are still striving to murder the Republic. These conservators and casuists, still true to the lessons taught them by their favorite candidate for President, steadily ignore the fact that but for the prompt and rigorous measures of Mr. Lincoln, when Congress was not in session, all of which were adopted without law, we should neither have a Constitution nor a Union to-day. I deny that partisans like these are capable of teaching constitutional obedience to the American people. If that great instrument has been weakened in any of its parts, their theory of States Rights, still adhered to, has done the work. They encouraged Secession even after it blossomed into war against the Constitution. The true, if not the only effective champions of that great charter, are the men who believe in the justice of our country's cause and the injustice of the Rebellion. The effort of the Breckinridge Democracy is such a reconstruction of the Government as will bring back into power their late Secession associates. Thus it is that we find them opposing all legislation which looks to the condign punishment of the rebels, and to the forfeiture of their property. Such acts being, according to their theory, in violation of the Constitution, must not be attempted. They will clamor for a trial by jury for Buckner, Floyd, Davis, Benjamin, and Beauregard, and, when this is conceded, will intrigue for their acquittal, hailing the occasion as another opportunity to offer a premium for treason, and to divide and degrade the people of the loyal States. Cold and callous while their country is bleeding at all its veins, they will be most merciful and

magnanimous to its betrayers. Should this programme triumph, the whole war will have been fought for less than nothing. The reign of the Breckinridge Democracy will be restored, and the Government itself, weakened in the strife, will become the prey of factions and the victim of heresies, which all good men had hoped to put down forever.

If the founders of the Federal Constitution were now living, they would confide neither its construction nor its preservation to these baleful influences. They would find a remedy for its maintenance in strong and thorough legislation -in bold blows at treason wherever found-in the inexorable and speedy punishment of all its leaders—and in such a policy as would strike them in their possessions, their property, and their franchises. Who that remembers George Washington's opinions on the question of slavery could ever suppose that he would allow it to remain a continual source of power in the hands of men whose mission is the extermination of free institutions? Would Thomas Jefferson, identified with all the efforts of the fathers, hold back his hand in such an hour as this, because the pro-slavery Democracy plead for the Federal Constitution? They would see that if present exigencies demand the extremest measures, the highest and most imperative considerations would sanction their adoption. If there were no precedents to excuse such measures,

they would make precedents. With them, the chief thought would be to consolidate such a government as would make it impregnable to domestic treason and invincible over foreign foes. I believe that the spirit of those good men made perfect dwells upon and lives in the hearts of most of the friends o President Lincoln. There is not one who contemplates moving beyond the strict let er of the Federal Constitution, nor is there one who will not readily sacrifice himself if, in order to preserve and perpetuata it, more rigid and searching legislation is required. The country will sustain them in view of these awful responsibilities: but it is now more than evident that the greatest obstacles in their pathway will be the arguments and efforts of those who profess, after the pattern of Breckinridge, exclusive devotion to

the Federal Constitution. No revolution, ancient or modern, has eve prevailed that was not animated by just principles, and pushed forward by strong and conscientious men. No revolution, started like the Secession rebellion, to maintain slavery, and to sanctify perjury, robbery, and assassination, but did not perish. When England was rotting to decay, after her scaffolds had been reddened with the blood of her bravest and best, and a besotted aristocracy had made her people worse than slaves, it was the strong hand of Oliver Cromwell that arrested the disease and applied the cautery. However his memory may still be assailed, the historical fact remains that England could never have attained her proud position among the nations of the earth but for his bold and uncompromising policy. Long may it be before such an example is necessary in this Republic; but rather than allow this Government to fall, and treason to triumph, there is no true American that will not demand and applaud the strongest measures on the part of Mr. Lincoln's Admin-

OCCASIONAL. istration. Smith O'Brien Righted.

Mr. Smith O'Brien has so many and such warm friends on this side of the Atlantic, that we have a certainty of making them rejoice at the satisfactory settlement of his property. It may be remembered that, in 1848, when about being tried on a charge of high treason, Mr. O'BRIEN prudently took the precaution of settling his estates upon his children, appointing his elder brother, Lord Inchiquin. and a London lawyer, as trustees. Otherwise, on conviction, his property would have been forfeited to the Queen of England. From the time of Mr. O'BRIEN's return from exile, under a pardon under the Great Seal, which completely rehabilitated him, he received all the rents and administered the property, just as he did before his trial. But his trustees, on the death of his wife, last summer, affected to believe that thereby the estates passed to his children, and applied to the Court of Chancery to be relieved from the trust—the children to be made a ward of Chancery, and Mr. O'BRIEN to become wholly dependent on their filial piety or on their charity for the means of support. The London Times, which has a special antipathy to Ireland and Irishmen. gravely congratulated its readers on the expected poverty of SMITH O'BRIEN, which, it

said, would exile or silence him. Mr. MAZIERE BRADY, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, has had Mr. O'BRIEN's case argued before him, for two days, in open court, and has just pronounced what will probably be a final decision—though Lord Inchiquin and his friend certainly have the power of bringing it, by appeal, before the House of Lords, as an ultimate tribunal. The cost, and the risk, would probably deter them from this course.

The Chancellor has dismissed the petition of the trustees, set aside the trust deeds of 1848, and corfirmed the deeds of 1861, by which the eldest son becomes possessed of the property, paying his father £2,000 a year during his life, as well as charges for the support of the younger children. The net value of the estates is over £5,000 a year—so that Mr. O'BRIEN actually loses three-fifths of his income. Still, as his eldest son must support the younger children, Mr. O'BRIEN will probably have, in his certain £2,000 a year, a larger sum for his personal expenditure than he ever enjoyed before. The machinations of his unfraternal up by his partisans and widely circulated as | Tory brother are signally defeated by the above

> The Evacuation of Columbus. Intelligence received from Com. FOOTE leaves little doubt of the evacuation of Columbus by the Secession forces, and it either is now. or soon will be, in the possession of our troops. There are but few points on the Mississippi below that town which can be very strongly fortified, and by its loss the enemy are deprived of their most important barrier to the free transit of the great American river. It has cost them many a bitter pang to abandon

intensified. The New Orleans Delta recently "Should Columbus fall, what is to prevent the "Should Columbus Iail, what is to prevent the enemy from sweeping down the river with the immense fleet of gunboats and floating hatteries which he has been so long preparing at St., Louis and Cairo, and with a hundred thousand menuader Halleck to attack us on one side, while an expedition striking up from the sea would attack us on the other? Who can answer? Do effectual defences answer? Do preparations for defence in rapid progress answer? Where are the defences? Who

prevailing in the Southwest will now be greatly

progress answer? Where are the defences? Who is engaged in the preparations? These questions admit of no satisfactory answer.

"Our dependence at present for the safety of the city from the approach of a formidable expedition down the river, is upon Columbus. That is the Northern key to the Mississippi delta. That in possession of the enemy, the floodgates of invasion will be opened. Our situation would not be hopeless, for the soul of Southern men, fighting a war of independence, must not dream of despair; but we would be confronted with terrible dangers and the whole country exposed to fearful evils."

The dangers thus foreshadowed are now The dangers thus foreshadowed are now

intensified by our complete command of the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, our occupation of Nashville, and our virtual possession of the late Western stronghold of the enemy. Attempts will probably be made to create new barriers to our descent of the Mississippi, but none can equal in completeness the strong works that lately frowned upon us at Columbus. We have the "key to the Mississippi Delta," and the day cannot be far distant when it will be completely freed from the dominion of the

Death of General L. W. Lander. The intelligence of the death of General LANDER will be deeply regretted throughout the whole country. He was one of the most useful and promising officers of the army. Trained to endure hardships in every form, and to battle with danger in every shape, by his active life and his experience as an explorer of the overland routes to the Pacific. he was peculiarly well fitted to render important service in the present struggle. His manly course as second of Mr. POTTER, of Wisconsin, in his difficulty with PRYOR, of Virginia, will not soon be forgotten. At the outset of the war he accompanied General McClellan in his victorious campaign in Western Virginia. He arrived upon the field at Edwards' Ferry in time to witness the conclusion of the battle, and to receive a wound, which, though not deemed at the time very serious, has proved the cause of his death. Nervously anxious to do his whole duty, he has been making vigorous efforts to follow up his late successes, and in his onthusiasm sacrificing his life in the cause of his country. A few years ago General LANDER married Miss JANE M. DAVENPORT, the accomplished actress, whose grief at his untimely loss will

be shared by the whole nation. WE COPIED from the Washington National Inelligencer, on Saturday, a list of the officers of the rebel navy. Among the names of commanders appears that of Henry K. Hoff. This is an error. Captain Hoff, although appointed to the naval that they should not seek any political objects school from South Carolina, is a citizen of Philaofficers of our payy. He is now in command of the United States sloop-of-war Lancaster, on the Pacific station, and, besides, has several of his relatives in the Union ranks nobly battling for their country. We hope, in justice to Captain Hoff, that this correction will be published by those journals that have given currency to the incorrect statement.

AUCTION SALE OF FRENCH GOODS, ENBROIDEnies, &c.—The attention of purchasers is invited to the valuable assortment of French, German, Swiss, embracing about 500 lots of staple and fancy articles, to be peremptorily sold, by catalogue, for cash, commencing this morning, at 10 o'clock, by John B. Myers & Co., auctioneers, Nos. 232 and 234 Market street.

SALE THIS MORNING, RESIDENCE, FURNITURE, &c., North Broad street. SALE TO-MORROW, STOCKS, REAL ESTATE, &c., at the Exchange. See Thomas and Sons' catalogues and advertisements.

FROM WASHINGTON. Special Despatches to "The Press."

Evacuation of Columbus Confirmed OFFICIAL DESPATCH OF COM. FOOTE

Allied Intervention in Mexico. ITS PURPOSE TO ERECT A MONARCHY. RELEASE OF 400 UNION PRISONERS.

COLONEL CORCORAN EXPECTED AT BALTIMORE. DEATH OF GEN. LANDER.

Official Confirmation of the Evacuation of Columbus. WASHINGTON, March 2, 1862. The following despatch was received to-day from

"Lieutenant Commanding Phelps, sent with a flag of truce to day to Columbus, has this moment returned and reports that Columbus's being evacuated. He saw the rebels burning their winter quarters and removing their heavy guns on the bluffs, but the guns on the water batteries remain intact. He also saw a large force of cavalry drawn up os-tentatiously on the bluffs, but no infantry were to be seen, as heretofore. The encampment seen in our armed reconnoissance, a few days since, has been removed. Large fires were visible in the town of Columbus and upon the river bank below. indicating the destruction of the town, the military stores, and equipments.
"A. H. FOOTE, Flag Officer."

Commodore FOOTE, dated Cairo, March 1:

It is believed here that our army has by this time occupied Columbus. Sketch of Columbus, Ky.

Columbus, Ky., has thus been described by special correspondent:
Columbus, Ky., is situated on the southern slope

Columbus, Ky., is situated on the southern slope of a high bluff, on the east side of the Mississippi river, and is in the midst of a heavily tumbered region, and the rebels have carefully availed themselves of all the advantages which the forest presents for facilitating the defences of the place. Few places in the South are capable of being more strongly defended than this, and nothing has been the collection of the coll strongly defended that this, and nothing mis deem left undone to render it impregnable. Information which is deemed reliable fixes the rebel force in the city at about thirty thousand men, the great por-tion of whom are callisted for the war, and are well armed. The sixty-days men are few in number, and generally have old shot-guns and hunting-rides. The fortifications are well supplied with cannon,

The fortifications are well supplied with cannon, three of which are one hundred and twenty eight pounders, which are placed in such a position as to command the river from the highest point of the bluff, which is elevated at least seventy-five feet above low-water mark, The number of guns certainly does not fall below eighty, and probably reaches one hundred. The first fortifications which an attacking fleet will encounter will be a battery of fourteen guns, generally thirty-two pounders rified-cannon, and the battery of one hundred and twenty-eight pounders already referred to. As the former is situated on the river bank, it can be reached by our shot, without any greater difficulty reached by our shot, without any greater difficulty than was experienced at Hilton Head and Hatte-ras; but the latter will certainly be silenced with tus, out the factor with certainly be stended with the greatest difficulty, and only at a great distance. On the northern slope of the bluff are two light batteries and a ride pit, one mile in length, which are designed specially to protect the place against a land attack from the north, while on the summit of the hill is a strongly-entrenched work, com-manding all directions, and manned by eight can-

on.
On the south side, and to protect the town from a On the south side, and to protect the town from a rear attack, is a small battery of four guns, and in the river to the north of the town is the celebrated submarine battery, which is to explode and destroy our fleet, if we take the word of that veracious individual, Commodore Hollins. But submarine batteries never have been effective means of warfare, and it is doubtful if they ever will. The time and money expended upon them have always been thrown away. thrown away.

A church near the centre of the city is used for a

magazine, but why so exposed a position should be chosen we are unable to conjecture. When Commodore Foote made his last reconnoissance, he could distinctly see the garrison removing the powder to a locality farther south and out of reach of he shalls. Whether it has or has not been replaced we are unable to say. IMPORTANCE OF THE POST

To show the importance of the position, we take the following from the St. Louis Republican of the 5th ult.:

The rebels attach great importance to their situation at Columbus. The report, first circulated several days ago, of the removal of General Beauregard from the Potomac to that quarter, comes to us reiterated by Southern journals. That an immediate attack upon Columbus is generally apprehended by the rebel officers, seems quite evident, and that the place is daily being strengthened and prepared to withstand a siege, admits of as little doubt. The New Orleans Delta shows that the safety of the South, and the effectual resistance of the rebels to the Union armies, depend upon the holding of Columbus and its supporting military posts, while to Southern Kentucky all eyes are turned as the probable seat of a coming fierce and decisive conflict. The recent defeat of Zollicoffer near Somerset, whereby the rebels were driven from a valued position, was the first note of this great contention. By that signal action Gen. Thomas has nearly turned the right of Gen. Johnston's forces, and very materially advanced to the assistance of the troops on The rebels attach great importance to their situation at Columbus. The report, first circulated rially advanced to the assistance of the troops of Green river, who are but waiting some co-operating movements to march on Bowling Green and take it. If, meantime, the communication between Bowling Green and Columbus can be cut off, the Union forces will have it in their power to achieve such a victory as will make the Confederates tremble from

Nashville to Pensacola.

The fortifications that defend Columbus are situ-The fortifications that defend Columbus are situated on the bluffs just above the town and along Lucas bend. They are so placed, and the natural advantages of the ground are such, that any attempt to take them without the co-operation of a powerful land force will prove unsuccessful and disastrous. I noticed but one cannon on the bank in front of the town, and that was a small one. General Johnston commands the forces there, and has with him Pillow and Cheatham. The number of their troops was stated at 35,000, of whom 25,000

or their troops was stated at 53,000, or whom 23,000 when then at Columbus.

An INSIDE VIEW OF THE REBEL ENCAMPMENT.

The houses of the town are generally small, mrny painted white, and some few showing good taste by their surroundings of shrubbery and cultivated grounds. On the river bank is the depot of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, a commodious building and the phile corporation to the place. About the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, a commodious building, and the chief ornament of the place. About half of the soldiers were uniformed, while of the balance many had an army cap, a coat, pants with a stripe or military mark of some kind, and the rest simply ordinary costume. Their arms were decidedly mixed, some of those in tents or hands of sentinels being revolving weapons, others breech-loading common muskets, hunting rifes, &c. The correspondent says: I picked up one with the stamp "Harper's Ferry" upon it. Tents were of the old style; some tattered and useless, others strong and new, but pitched in regular order. Discipline was evidently more lax than in Federal camps, and the men appeared to take things in a camps, and the men appeared to take things in a free and easy style. Shoes gave the most melancholy effect of the blockade. Those of leather showed numerous patches, and the long-haired captain said a style made of thick cloth were being used instead. None of the uniforms of the soldiers were new, and a pinch will evidently come when they are worn out. Blankets were also

scarce, and preparations for winter scanty. The War in Tennessee-Official Despatches-A Military Provisional Go. vernment to be Established-Andrew

Johnson to be a Brigadier General. Official information to the War Department, from Nashville, represents that the military work in that State is about completed, and that it only remains to effect-a civil reorganization of the Stat Government. It is believed that the United States forces wil

ccupy Columbus to-day. The rebel forces, under ALBERT S. JOHNSON, are being steadily pressed backward by General Cotton to the value of \$700,000 has fallen into our hands at Nashville, and the Treasury Department has taken measures to have it brought to New

have not had an opportunity. At the same time such jealous grumblers should be reminded that it The President has designated the Hon. Andrew JOHNSON to be a brigadier general, and he proceeds to Tennessee to-morrow to open a military Provisional Government of Tennessee, until the civi Government shall be reconstructed. Gen. Buell will be nominated to-morrow as

major general of volunteers. The Town of Columbus in Flames. CHICAGO, March 2 .- A special despatch to the Times, dated Cairo, March 1st, reports that the unanimous disloyalty of the citizens in and around Nashville is confirmed by every arrival from the Cumberland. The difference in sentiment between the people along the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers is very marked. On the former there were many Unionists, but on the latter none have yet nade their appearance.

Reports are current, and credited here, that Columbus has been evacuated and destroyed. The town was in flames last night. Great quietness and inaction reign at Cairo. The Monarchy for Mexico.

It is said to be already understood between the allied Powers that a monarchy in Mexico will result from the invasion of that country, notwith tanding the assurance given to the United States that they should not seek any political objects delphia, and one of the most loyal accomplished | those assurances by saying that the monarchy will established by the free choice of the Mexican people, just as the empire was established in France by the free choice of the French nation.

Major General Hitchcock.

Major General HITCHCOCK declines his appoint ment to that position, on the ground that the bad health with which he has been suffering for several years will not permit him to perform the duties of the field. His letter of declination utters strong Union sentiments, his fervent desire that the rebellion may be speedily overthrown, and his confident and British dry goods, tarletans, needle-worked belief that this will soon take place and the autho bands, velvet and bonnet ribbons, white goods, &c., rity of the Federal Government everywhere reestablished. He expresses great admiration of the brilliant achievements recently in the West, and of the military genius which they manifest. Passes for the South.

The War Department refuses to transmit any letters to the Southern States. Numerous passes have been given to women and children, and persons in ill health, to return to their friends and families. Passes for business purposes, or to persons merely desiring to visit the South and West, are invariably refused.

FROM GEN, BANKS' COLUMN. General LANDER died this afternoon, at Pawpaw Western Virginia, from the debilitating effects of MARTINSBURG OCCUPIED.

Death of General Lander.

measures for obtaining a special train to proceed

hither, but, before the arrangements could be

completed, Secretary STANTON called in person

and with much feeling and delicacy, acquainted

Secretary Chase, and other distinguished friends

Sketch of General Lander.

Brigadier General Francis W. Lander, who

udden death will take the country by surprise

and evoke a universal feeling of regret, was a native of Massachusetts, and in his thirty-eighth

year. His earliest years were marked with a love

f adventure, and a taste for the profession of arms

Although not a graduate of West Point, he was

undoubtedly, one of the ablest military leaders of

the present unfortunate struggle, and was a very

Cour de Lion on the battle-field. Innumerable

nstances have been related of his personal daring

amounting almost at times to recklessness, an

there are few special correspondents who have no

His name was first made prominent in connection

with an exploration for a wagon-road to the Pacific

At the breaking out of the present rebellion he

was appointed by General McClellan, then in West-

ern Virginia, to be a member of his staff. The bril-

liant exploit at Phillippi was mainly due to himsel

At Rich Mountain his worth again displayed itself,

Upon General McClellan's appointment to the

command of the army of the Potomac, General

Lander accompanied him, and proved a valuable

auxiliary in reorganizing the demoralized and dispirited forces. So highly was he esteemed that

the Government shortly after despatched him

upon secret service, which he performed with

credit to his own sagacity, and to the entire satis

placed in command of a brigade in Gen. Banks

ivision, and at the battle of Edwards' Ferry, or

the 21st of October, he was for the first time wound

ed, being shot in the leg while gallantly cheering

forward his men. The wound was of such a seriou

character that he was compelled, although reluc

tantly, to relinquish his command for several weeks

mander of our forces at Romney, Va.

natance of his commander-in-chief.

from the Secretary of War:

of which suggested it.

ommand.

About three months since he was appointed com

On the approach of the rebel General Jackson, h

was forced to evacuate that position to prevent

himself from being outflanked-a movement ex-

tremely distasteful to himself, and only made at the

It was but a few days since that we chronicled

his dashing exploit at Bloomery Gap. Having

heard that a rebel camp was at that place, he

marched a distance of thirty-two miles with his

four thousand men, and succeeded in surprising it

completely. By this coup he succeeded in cap

turing no less than seventeen commissioned officers

and forty-five privates, losing but two men. The

affair elicited the following complimentary notice

To Brigadier Ceneral F. W. LANDER.

The nation has few such soldiers to immolate their

General Lander was married less than three

years since to Miss J. M. Davenport, the distin-

wished tragedienne, and a most accomplished lady

Her loss is the nation's loss, and her grief will be

General Shields succeeds General Landar in

Brigadier General James Shields, just appointed

to the command made vacant by the death of Gene-

ral Lander, is a native of Ireland. At an early

age he emigrated to this country, and took up his

dier general of volunteers. He was breveted major

general, for "gallant and meritorious conduct" in

the battle of Cerro Gordo, on the 18th of April,

The Sixty-sixth Pennsylvania.

The Sixty-sixth Pennsylvania Regiment, for-

merly commanded by Col. CHANTRY, has been brought here from Frederick, and is now encamped

on the Bladensburg road, about two miles from the

city. The regiment is in a sad state, and will no

doubt be disbanded unless Gov. Currin sees proper

to fill it up, and place efficient officers in command.

The report is that Company A, of this regiment,

will be attached to Col. FRITZ'S regiment, and

three other companies to Col. Kolte's regiment,

Presentation in Col. Ballier's Regiment.

A committee of Philadelphians, composed of Dr.

MORWITZ, editor of the German Democrat, and

Messrs. Ghass, Meyer, and Ladner, have been

here for the purpose of presenting Captain GENAL,

of Colonel Ballier's 98th Pennsylvania Regi-

ment, with a handsome sword and sash. The Colo-

and patriotic speeches were made. Dr. Morwitz

made a most eloquent address in the German lan-

guage, and was most eloquent throughout. Colo-

nel BALLIER and Captain GENAL replied in Eng-

lish. The occasion was a most happy one, and will

not soon be forgotten by the regiment. Colonel

BALLIER is still encamped at Tenallytown, ready

The Pennsylvania Troops.

Some persons here appear to take particular de-

light in sneering at the Pennsylvania troops. They say that Pennsylvania boasts that she has a larger number of troops in the field than any other single

State, yet they have as yet done nothing to show

their courage. If they have not, it is because they

was Pennsylvania troops who did the hard fighting

Yesterday morning, while a hack man was con-

veying a colored woman from Capitol Hill to her

mother's residence, she died in the carriage from

emall pox, from which she was suffering. The

mother refused to receive the body until she was

compelled to do so by the authorities. Strangers

coming to the city should be very careful in em-

The fine, clear, cold weather, has given way to

quite a snow storm. The ground is covered, this

A Philadelphian Dangerously Ill.

M. Gronge Funniss a well-known Philadel.

phian, is lying dangerously ill, at Willards' Hotel,

The Patent Office.

There are rumors affoat of trouble in the Patent

Office. As investigations are the order of the day,

it is not to be supposed that this institution can

Reports of Investigating Committees.

It is supposed that two of the recently-appointed

investigating committees will be able to make their

Shoe Contractors.

swindled the Government in the most outrageous

manner. Another investigation will reveal the

names of the contractors, and the prices paid for

Col. Corcoran, and Four Hundred Re

leased Prisoners, expected at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, March 2.—The boat from Fortress

Monroe, to morrow, will bring four hundred more released prisoners, and it is confidently expected

that Col. Corcoran, and other officers, will accom-

Zouave Regiment to escort them from the boat to the rooms of the Relief Association.

Sailing of the Arabia

Gen. Dix has ordered out the New York Fifth

Some of the down East shoe contractors have

evening, to the depth of two or three inches.

of typhoid fever.

the contracts.

pany them.

A Distressing Case of Small-Pox.

to march at a moment's notice.

at Ball's Bluff and Dranesville.

nel ordered the whole regiment out, and stirring

unless the Governor interferes.

1847, when he was dangerously wounded.

brigade was disbanded.

to be not misplaced.

SKETCH OF GENERAL SHIELDS.

lives on the altar of its nationality.

hared by the entire American people.

n the valuable assistance which he rendered

and Brigadier General B. F. Kelly.

phronicled instances of his manly courage.

ome few years since.

General McClellan.

faction of the President.

her with the fact of her husband's death.

ubsequently visited her in her affliction.

his wound, received at Edward's Ferry. His body s on the way to this city, where his widow resides. CHARLESTOWN, (Va.,) March 2.—The main body General LANDER had every attention which his of Gen. Banks' division rests in the vicinity of old and well-tried friends around him could bestow. Charlestown. No disaster or accident has occurred His death was somewhat sudden. It was not until 5 o'clock this afternoon that his wife received insince its concentration at and departure from Sandy elligence of his illness She immediately took Hook, to cause any anxiety to friends at home.

Three inches of snow fell to-day.

The hitherto rancorous Sec

marked respect to the United States uniform. The citizens who had been compelled to suc-cumb to rebel force, are clated with the prospects of the future. It is gratifying to perceive that the country throughout which the army passed bears marks of the usual agricultural industry. It is apparent that the future cereal crops of this prolific region have not been neglected. As might be supposed, the town and country are destitute of imported articles of consumption. There is no lack of bread, meat, and coarse clothes. Hundreds of contrabands are hourly seeking refuge within our lines, but they are allowed to roam at large without espionage or care. In fact, but little notice is taken of them, except to prevent their return bs-

yond our posts. The general freports from Winchester are conflicting, and but little reliance is placed upon them, coming as they do from refugees and contrabands. The military commanders undoubtedly are better informed than the public, and are consequently prepared for any emergency which may arise. Considerable flour, accredited to the rebel army, has been seized, but private property has been strictly respected. Martinsburg has been occupied by the United

States troops.

TWO DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE. THE ARABIA AT HALIFAX.

THE "STONE BLOCKADE" AGAIN. Cost to England of the Mason-Slidell Affair.

THE MEXICAN COALITION.

England to Withdraw if the Internal Affair Upon his return from his foreign mission he was of Mexico are to be Interfered with.

HALIFAX, March 1.—The royal mail steamship Arabia, from Liverpool on Saturday, the 15th ult., via Queen own the 16th ult., arrived here at 2.30 P. M. to-day short of coal. She experienced strong westerly gales during the whole passage. She had 60 passagers for It is reported that the Tuscarora had arrived at Giraltar, where the Sumpter still remained without coal.

GREAT BRITAIN. In the House of Lords, on the 14th, Lord Stanhope called attention to the reports of additional stone block-ades at Charleston, and asked what steps the Government adea at Charleston, and asked what steps the Government would take.

Earl Bussell had no official information, and knew not whether the reports were correct. Government had protested against the permanent destruction of any harbor as unjuntifiable, and the American Government responded that they had no intention to permanently destroy harbors. The views of the French Government were identical with those of England.

Lord Dunkellin, in the Commons, gave notice of an impurity relative to the state of the negotiations between the Government and the Galway line.

John A. Turner called attention to the distress in the manufacturing districts, owing to the American trouble,

nanufacturing districts, owing to the American trouble, and urged the Government to do everything in its power to develop the cotton production elsewhere.

The Government is busily preparing all the information relative to the American blockade to lay before Par-

WAR DEPARTMENT, \(\)

WASHINGTON, February 17, 1862. \(\)

The President directs me to say that he has observed with pleasure the activity and enterprise manifested by yourself and the officers and the soldiers of your command. You have shown how much may be done in the worst weather and worst roads, by a spirited officer at the head of a small force of brave men unwilling to waste life in camp when the enemies of their country are withen reach. The O'Donoghue gave notice of a motion for returns as to all the British vessels which have run the blockade, or been captured in the effort; also, all British vessels which have put into Nassan and other ports, with contraband of war, and been permitted to refit, &c.

A supplementary naval estimate asks for an extra vote of £364.000, which is regarded as representing the expense of the Mason and Slidell affair.

FRANCE. ife in camp when the encures of what may neach.
Your brilliant success is a happy presage of what may be expected when the army of the Potomac shall be led to the field by their gallant general.
EDWIN M. STANION, Secretary of War. FRANCE.

FRANCE.

Prince Napoleon had offered an amendment to the address in the French Chembers, regretting that the Pope did not listen to the conciliatory propositions of France for the settlement of the Roman question, but will drew the amendment on the understanding that the address is to contain a mild rebuke to the same effect.

The Partic points to the efforts to get cotton via Mexico, as a probable solution of the blockade question.

The Bourse was flat at 71f. 10c.

The Austrian Concordat is to be revised, with the consent of the Pope. However, the wound received at Edwards' Ferry was still painful, and excited the alarm of his friends and medical advisers. The sad telegraphic lespatch, which we publish in another column hows that this alarm was only too well founded. THE LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN. General Lander was a finished scholar, and a

THE LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN,
PARIS, Feb. 16.—The Moniteur says the Council
of State has discussed the bill for establishing a supplementary tax of ten francs per hundred kilogrammes on
all sugars for consumption. The same bill fixes twenty
fancs per hundred kilogrammes consumption tax on salt.
CUSTANTIONILE, Feb. 15.—A commorcial treaty has
been signed between Russia and Turkey.
WARSAW, Feb. 15.—The churches have been solemnly
reaspened. gentleman of fine literary tastes. One of his latest listely after the Ball's Bluff disaster, an incident His was the true type of the American soldier. WARSAW, Feb. 15.—An identical Prussian note was rereopened
Berlin, Feb. 15.—An identical Prussian note was remitted yeste-day to Austria and the other German States
of the Wurtzebourg Coslition. The note says since
Austria, considering her general interests as well as her
positive rights, feels called upon to protest against the
Prussian view in reference to German affairs, Prussia
will not conceal the fact that there appears no wellfounded motive or right for such a protest. The stir,
rendered still more striking by the sending of identical
notes, has so little of the character of an exchange of opinions that Prussia cannot discuss the views expressed in
the Austrian unite opposing those of Prussia. Prussia Fear was an emotion of which his nature was incapable, and courage the strongest impulse of his breast. His sphere was the battle-field, and his pride the head of his column. No other man so ustly deserved the compliment of General Scott, "that he was America's natural-born soldier."

nions that Prussia cannot discuss the views expressed in the Austrian note opposing those of Prussia. Prussia yields precedence to none, confident in the conscientions fulfiment of her Federal duties, in representation of real German interests, and serious in her endeavor to do jus-tice to well-founded national claims and to induce the Fe-deral Community and bleaving. Should that discussed part of the Austrian note, favoring the establishment Constitution for the whole Confederacy, with an effic constitution to the winds content are, with a finite executive power at its head, and aiming at a political consolidation of a wider extent, comprising non-German territories, as stated in the Austrian note of the 8th of November, be realized, Prussia would note of the 8th of November, he realized, Prussia would be compelled to see in such realization a far greater peril to the continuance of the Confederacy than in the reforms indicated in the Prussian despatch of the 20th of December. Prussia is far from opposing a formal protest to a mere expression of opinion, but at the same time she considers it more proper to swatt the proposal of a reform in a more concise shape. At present, as far & Prussia can indee, the promosed reforms are furnication. rominence until 1846, when, upon July 1st of that year, he was appointed, by President Polk, brigarelative to Mexican affairs might lead to the fall of the Palmerston Cabinet. It is believed that England will withdraw from the expedition should its aim be aban-doned by Spain and France, and should they interfere in

He afterwards commanded a brigade, composed of a battalion of marines, and a New York and the internal policy of Mexico.

The Independence Belge asserts the positive acceptance of the candidative throne of Mexico by Maximilian. South Carolina regiment of volunteers. He was again wounded at Chepultepec. In July, 1848, his From 1849 to 1850 he represented the State of Venetia.
The belief continues in Italy that Austria meditator Illinois in the U.S. Senate. His subsequent honorable career is well known to the public. The trust which has just been reposed in him will be found

war against Piedmont. The emigration of young men

It is generally believed that Prussia will recognize the Kingdom of Italy.

Victor Emmanuel is to send a frigate into the Mexican waters for the protection of Italians.

Liverpool, Saturday—Trade Report.—The advices from Manchester are favorable, the market for goods and yarns having an upward tendency.

LIVERPOOL BREADSTUFFS MARKET.—Breadstoffs generally are steady. The various circulars re-sion market has a downward tendency. Bighand, Athya, & Co., and others, report heef steady; pork heavy, and declined 2s. 6d; bacon dull, and declined 1s; lard still declining, and quoted at 42æ43s; tallow quiet and leady.
LIVERPOOL PRODUCE MARKET.—Ashes quiet; sugar easier; coffee steady; rice firm i rosin quiet, common 12s 9dæ13s; spirits turpentine has a downward tendency, quoted 68s 6dæ70s.

LONDON MARKETS.—(Baring)—Breadstuffs dull. Iron dull at £5ω£5 5s. Coffee quiet and steady. Sugar dull. Ten steady; common Congou 1s 1½da1s 24. Rice dull. Linseed Oil still upward; quoted 34s 34ω34s 94. Tailow inactive at 46s 6d. Spirits Turpentine inactive at 65s. LONDON, Friday evening.—Consols closed at 23 203 %

lion of £86,000.

AMERICAN STOCKS.—The latest sales are Illinois Central shares 44 discount, Erie shares 28 ½. From Fortress Monroe. NON-ARRIVAL OF THE RELEASED PRISONERS, BALTIMORE, March 2.—The Old Point boat has arrived, but brings no nows. The flag of truce steamer which had gone up the James river to bring down the released Union prisoners had not returned when the boat left Old Point.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 28.—The Stermer Mystic has arrived from the blockade off the Rappaleroneek.

The War in Kentucky LOUISVILLE, March 1.—The Journal has adices that the rebel Captain John Morgan has been captured near Scottsville, Ky.

Arrival of Col. Lee at Boston Boston, March 1.—Colonel Lee, Major Reeve, and Dr. Reeve were received at the depot, last evening, by Governor Andrew and staff, and a large crowd of citizens. They were received with a hearty welcome and most enthusiastic cheers. The city government of Roxbury propose giving Lee a public reception next week.

The U.S. Frigate Vermont in Distress. Boston, March 2.—The schooner Klying Mist, at Chatham, reports, on the 27th ult., ninety-five miles from Cape Cod, spoke the U.S. frigate Vermont, with loss of rudder, both bower anchors, suit of sails, and four boats. She wanted steam to taw her into port. Commodore Hudson sends to: night the steamers San Jacreto, Aroostook, and Saxon, and two tow-boats, in search of her.

The Passport Order Rescinded. NEW YORK, March 1.—Secretary Seward has re-cinded the order requiring persons leaving this country to procure passports

From San Francisco SAN FRANCISCO. March 1 .- Sailed, the ship West Wind, for Hong Kong.
The steamer St. Louis, for Panama, sailed to-day, with a few passengers and \$486.000 in treasure for New York, and \$212,000 for England.

Arrival of Captured Cotton. New York, March 2.—The bark G. W. Hall, from Key West, has brought 250 bales of cotton, the cargo of the schooner Lizzie Weston, captured off the Balize by the U. S. gunboat Itasca. Public Amusements.

To-night, at the Walnut-street Theatre. Mr. Dan Rice naugurates an equestrian engagement of more than ordiary attractiveness "Ella Zoyara"—established as a nary attractions after a long physiological discussion—"t and her son" will be some of the features of this exhibition. The horse "Excelsior," the famous mules, and Melville, the wonderful rider, are also included in the list. Dan Rice himself is known to be a humorist of the most popular lescription; and he will interland the broakneck and nescription; and ne will internate the Debances and tumbling feats with some of his characteristic wit. Christy's Minstrels have been doing well at Concert

Hall. The company is one of the best on the continent.

All the jokes and songs are new, and there are some new aces among the Ethiops.

John Drew has been drawing splendid houses for nearly fifty nights. The great combination bill will probably fifty nights. The great combination but will proceedy
have a success of a hundred nights. In this piece, the
labor devolves upon John Drew, who mindes Prank
Drew, and thus preserves the resymblance of the Drownos.
Mortimer and Ringgold do not look alike; John Gilbert HALIFAX, March 2.—The steamer Arabia sailed at half-past 3 o'clock this morning, and will be due in New York early on Tuesday.

The steamer Adviatic left Sydney yesterday for Errors' and the first act of the conedy; but the Dramios cannot be distinguished from each other save by consisents. The "Comedy of Errors" and the "Serious Earnite" will be repeated to night Family" will be repeated to-night.

NEW YORK YESTERDAY.

THE WEATHER AND THE STREETS—SLUDGE AND SNOW-WATER—WADING THROUGH BROADWAY—THE CENTRAL PARK SKATING POND—THE LADIES ON SKATES—PROSPECT OF A LONG SPRING TRADE—REGULATIONS FOR LENT—NEW COUNTERFEITS—THE WAR—DISTRESS AMONG THE POORES CLASS—SPECIE SCARGE—ST. PATRICK'S DAY—THE THEATRES, ETG., ETG. From Our Correspondent.

The ever-hopeful season of spring was introduced to the notice of the people of this city, and the surrounding listricts, in the most agreeable manner, yesterday morn ing. The biting cold, and tempestuous northwest wind which provailed for the two previous days and highest subsided before daybreak, and the weather had considerably moderated at dawn. About 5.30 A. M. the thereter stood at 24 degrees, being six degrees higher than at the same hour on Friday, when the mercury just reached eighteen degrees. As the day advanced the atmushlore became warmer, to that at noon, the sir being perfectly still, the rays of the sun shed quite an Apri balm over the heads of our ever-busy, and ever-out-of door population.
I must confess that the balm was all over head; for

he unexpected warmth rendered our leading the force, with the other streets exposed to its influence, in a niserable plight, by a sudden thaw of the heavy snow which came down last Thursday morning to the depth o three inches, and remained frozen on those highways since. Broadway was completely liquified, and the traveller downward from Union Square found Canal atree with somewhat of the original riverian appearance of that locality at the time when adventurous young Knickerbockers, who lived over their fathers' stores in Pear and Front streets, were wont to resort thither for pur-poses of duck-shooting and boating. The ferry landings n the North and East rivers, the Battery grounds, and the streets in the neighborhood of the great railroad depots, were completely submerged in dirty sludge and snow water, so that men, women, and children, drays, express wagons, carriages, post-office vans, with un-hitched and yoked-up teams, were all to be seen spluttering and spattering through the mud, from noon untisingular confusion. Everybody seemed in good humor notwithstanding, and everything was taken in good part. Indeed, I am of opinion that a good many of our city elles who "bad to be out," and were "forced to go shopping"-rather rejoiced in the occasion afforded the for the utterance of their delicate "Lah!" " lahs!" and the display of their tasteful Balmorals as they slipped, or

waded, over Broadway.

The Central Park Skating-pond was very well patronized from 3 to half past 6 o'clock in the avaning, and one city railroad cars filled with enthusiastic hygiests and juveniles, who know full well that the hours of the skating season are numbered, and are resolved to make the ost of those which remain. New York ladies enio most of those which remain. New York ladies enjoy skating hugely. There is no doubt but that the physical development and digestion of thousands amongst them have been vastly improved and benefited during the winter by the frequent practice of this axidiarating exercise, but whether the mole of transit to and from the park, the intimate association of such miscellineous scowds, and the manner in which the different posular rendezvous at and around the park have been conducted, have produced a corresponding good effect on the morals of the visitors is a matter of grave doubt. In fact, I have noticed, with regret, that, like every other grand, noble undertaking or institution in New York the Central Park has been greatly abused of late by the ice pend being made a place of set and fixed resort for the majority of the worst characters—both male and female—in the city, who have flocked thither, completely callous to the emobling influences which surrounded them, for the mere pursuit of their infamous avocation. Even in the milroad cars their demeaner and most equivocal language have been calculated to sully the minds of the young and innocent on too many occasions.

But to these, and alt such, is now held out the opportunity to "cease to do evil and learn to do well." The "Regulations for Lent" were read from the altars of the Catholic churches 'f New York to-day, and on Wednesday next—Ash Wednesday—Cothamia asked, as I hope it will, to mutoff its iniquities, cross herself with the ashes of humillation, don the sackcloth, and live for the ensuations" are promulgated in the name of Archbishop Hughes, now absent, either in Paris or Rome, and the skating hugely. There is no doubt but that the physical tions" are promulgated in the name of Archbishop Hughes, now absent, either in Parls or Rome, and the code of discipline does not differ materially from that eucode of discipline does not differ materially from that en-forced at the same season during the past few years. Even should the great bulk of our fellow-citizens refuse to "hearken to the call," many, many thousands of sin-cere Catholics—Hish, 'German, and American—will keep the Lant very strictly, and your Pennsylvania graziers and large farmers—taking a hint in season—may just now commence to diminish their supply of cattle, pork, poultry, and eges accordingly; for I assure you, from Ash Wednesday to Easter Saturday morning, the stalls in Washington and Fution markets are very dull of cus-tomers.

tomers.

Making due allowance for the diminished area of our commercial operations which has resulted from the Making due allowance for the diminished area of our commercial operations which has resulted from the Southern rebellion, the spring trade of New York promises to be lively. Some six or eight of the late steamass than Ettapa landed valuable categods of British and French gosds, and the boxing and packing for customers in the other loyal States is even now pretty brisk in our wholessle warrhouses. The stock of French calicoes and muslins entered at the custom house, is exceedingly heavy, but whether it is the result of well calculated orders or the voluntary shipments from the other ingly leavy, but whether it is the result of well calculated orders or the voluntury shipments from the other side of an industrial accumulation, I cannot say.

Counterfeits of the five-dollar treasury notes made their appearance in the city about four o'cleck on Saturday afternoon. The Metropolitan Police were immediately warned of the fact by the police triegraph, and ment produced a considerable share of astonishment, to say the least; but the distrust of the money has no served, as was at first anticipated it would, it having been shown that the counterfeits want the initial letters "U.S.." which are to be found very finely engraved in

"U. S.," which are to be found very finely engraved in the centre of the shield which is fixed on the breast of the female figure which stands on the left-hand corner of the somine paper.

Above all the matters just referred to, looms up the question of the progress of the war. During Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the city was deedly agitated by the circulation of hundreds of "rumors," "reports," and "authentic information." (!) of a "march of the progress of the Reteneed for the formation of the same of the Reteneed for the formation of the same of the Reteneed for the formation of the same of the Reteneed for the formation of the same of and "authentic information." (!) of a "march of the army of the Potomac," an "advance in force on Manasan," the "defeat of fieneral Banks." "General McCleilan's grand centre (!) fulling back," the "Union army will conquer or die, but never retrest," and so forth. The feeling on the subject of a grand movement from the line of the Potoma: was painfully intense on Friday night in most parts of New York, and as there was no means of allaying it by a telegraphic statement of the facts, the "crescit sundo," or its extension as it went, was very plainly observable. The announcement by one of the morning papers, vesterday, of the grossing went, was very painty observable. The announcement by one of the morning papers, pestarday, of the crossing of the Potomac by General Banks' column, and his unpoposed march into the rebel territory, essed the public mind to a great extent, but I must say that at 11 o'clock last (Saturday) night, the Union-laving masses of the city found unquier in the absence of more positive and full reports from Washington, while the dibris or rump of Succession, conveneed to home gasingt home from the

amount of warmth. Crowds are running up to the Central Park, and some pioneer excursionists have ventured over the North Biver to Hoboken.

There is no doubt but a considerable amount of distress exists amongst the artisans and laborers—particularly the classes not engaged in Government work or the production of implements or accountements of war—of New York just now. Our usual May migration, or "moving," has been anticipated thus season in a great measure; a large number of familion leaving in March; in order to seek cheap domiciles. Bills of "to let" are exceedingly numerous use now, both on stored and

The searcity of specia is a little embarrassing to the people. In the city railroad cars it is not at all unusual to see quite a fashionable gentleman having to pocket thirty or ferty copper cents, given in change by the conductor, as well as the affront of "such a load" being offered to him. I was told yesterday, that at our post office they will not take a five-dollar tressury note in payment for stumps, unless the pipichassiphips two dollars and fifty cents' worth of the stamps—a truly ridiculous reading, in my option, of the intections of the Government. The Irish residents are making energetic preparations for the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day. It will be a fine Irish-American and Union-loving affair. As the The searcity of specie is a little embarrassing to the

The Irish residents are making energetic preparations for the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day. It will be a fine Irish-American and Union-leving affair. As the rebels have kept Colonel Corcoran so long, perhaps they will permit him to drop in inst in season to take his place in the line of procession on that day. If they do that, we can forgive them a good deal, in the name of the Apostle of Ireland.

The Tammany Society is to do suitable honor to Colonel Cognedl, of Ball's Blaff lame. The "Brothers" of that ancient body are to meet in the "Wigwam" tomorrow (Monday), when Nelson J. Waterbüry. Grahid Sachem elect, will be installed, and other important business transacted.

Our theatres are in "full blast," and will continue so a sh Wedneslay.

The commercial report of the city, for Saturday, may be summed up thus, at 2 30 P. M.;

FLOIR.—The market was heavy sud-fell off about five cents & bh, while the sales embraced 8,000209,000 bbls at \$5.4065.75 for extra State.

Willar was heavy and irregular; sales of 15,000 bushels at \$14.07 kr red winter Western, and good Chicago spring at \$1004.131.

CORN was heavy and lower, with sales of 20,000 bus, mixed at \$10.01.31.

Pork was firm, with sales of 300 barrels at \$14.37 km 14.50, closing at the latter figure, and new prime at \$11.

Whisky was higher, with sales of 800 barrels at \$14.07.

for several days past the friends of the lately released Richmord prisoners have been auxiously awaiting their arrival in Philadelphia. On Saturday morning a despatch was received, stating that three hundred of the released prisoners from Richmond had started from Washreleased prisoners from Richmond had started from Washington, and that they would reach the city at about nine of clock in the evening. A large crowd collected at the refreshment saloons, and the tables were spread with delanter, for the purpose of giving the released captives a hearty and substantial welcome on their arrival. There are thousands of warm hearts throbling to meet the loved ones who were so lately in the hinds of the r bels. Towards midnight the crowd somewhat diminished, but a large number determined to rimain all night, if necessary. About 2 o clock the long-expected train serviced, and there was much disappointment felt when it became known that only 80 out of the 300 men who arrived were Philadelphinns. All hands were well feasted at the saloons. The remaining two hundred left about daylight for New York and Massachusetts. They are familiately with furloughs for eight days, and have been paid in full for their rations and service. Shortly after the arrival of the released prisoners, a train consisting of nine cars, each niled with sick soldiers, came in. Those men were immediately laken to the various Government hospitals.

At the corner of Swauson and Washington streets, the American flag was flying, and below it (Union down.) was a sample of the Secession rag, found near Newport News by a party of our soldiers. The trophy attracted considerable attention. During yesterday, a number of the released Philadelphians were seen strolling about tawn. They all lank remarkably well, and contirm the statements already published in The I reas relative to matters in Richmond. They are all anxious to go back ingtor, and that they would reach the city at about nine tatements already published in *The Press* relative to patters in Richmond. They are all anxious to go back matters in Richmond. They also all Mericagnesis.
The friends of Lieut. George W. Kenney and Sergeant
George L. Brown, of the Seventh-first Regiment, P. V.,
who returned home several days since from their captivity in Richmond, design giving the released heroes a

THE MEDICAL COLLEGES.—To-day at noon the fourteenth annual symmethy of the Homeopathic Medical College will take place at the Musical Fund Hail. The valeditory address will be delivered by Dr. J. K. Lee, professor of materia medica. The commencement of the Jefferson College will take place at the sume hail on Saturday next, the examination of the students being now in progress. Dr. Charles D. Meigs, who has Fesignad his gastian as Emartisa professor of obstetries and discusses of women and children, bade farewell to his class in an appropriate address, on Friday last.

The commencement of the University will follow that of the 4 Jeff." The examination of the students of this former institution is also taking place.

The Hahnemannish Medical Institute of the Homoopathic College held their twelfth annual commencement on Friday evening, at the college, in Filbert street, above Eleventh. The Institute is composed of the students, who have a commencement every year, at the close of the course of lectures. The exercises commenced on Friday evening by a few remarks from Professor Brooks, who stated the objects of the society, after which he gave some practical advice to the graduates in relation to their duties as medical practitioners. The valedictory address was delivered by one of the students, Mr. Pussy Wilson, of Delaware. The address was interesting and full of information, relating, as it did, to the great discoveries in the science of medicine from the remote periods, down to the time of Hahnemann. Prof. Gautze made a few remarks in conclusion, after which the audience dissersed. The proceedings of this hody are always very interesting and well attended. THE MEDICAL COLLEGES .- To-day